

Antibiotic Prophylaxis for Patients with Total Joint Replacements

Bacteremias occur when bacteria are shed into the blood stream and will occur as a result of acute infections in the mouth, skin, lung, gastrointestinal, and urogenital systems. These have been associated with late total joint infection. Probably the most critical period are the first two years after joint replacement.

The following recommendations are based on an advisory statement from the *American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons*. We do recommend most urological, dental patients or patients undergoing gastrointestinal endoscopy procedures with total joint replacements receive prophylactic antibiotics.

Antibiotic prophylaxis can be obtained by calling our office at 239-348-4253 at least 24 hours prior to your dental procedure.

Patients at Potential Increased Risk of Total Joint Infection:

- All patients during the first two (2) years after prosthetic joint replacement.
- Immunocompromised/immunosuppressed patients
- Inflammatory arthropathies (e.g.: rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus)
- Drug -induced immunosuppression
- Radiation-induced immunosuppression
- Patients with co-morbidities
- Previous prosthetic joint infections
- Malnourishment
- Hemophilia
- HIV infection
- Diabetes
- Malignancy

Antibiotic Prophylaxis for Patients with Total Joint Replacements

Total joint replacement patients undergoing dental procedures:

Dental Procedures

- Dental extractions
- Periodontal procedures including surgery
- Dental implant placement and replantation of avulsed teeth
- Endodontic (root canal) instrumentation or surgery
- Initial placement of orthodontic bands but not brackets
- Intraligamentary and intraosseous local anesthetic injections
- Prophylactic cleaning of teeth or implants where bleeding is anticipated

Antibiotic Recommendations for patients with Total joint replacements:

Patients NOT allergic to Penicillin:

- Cephalexin or Amoxicillin: 2 grams orally - 1 hour prior to dental procedure.

Patients allergic to penicillin:

- Clindamycin 600 mg orally - 1 hour prior to the dental procedure.

Patients NOT allergic to penicillin and unable to take oral medication:

- Cefazolin 1 gram or Ampicillin 2 grams IM/IV - 1 hour prior to the procedure.

Patients allergic to penicillin and unable to take oral medications:

- Clindamycin 600 mg IV - 1 hour prior to the procedure.

*** No second doses are recommended for any of these dosing regimens.**